

It is strongly reported that Germany has entered into an alliance with Belgium, Holland, and Spain.

A battle has been fought in Abyssinia between the Abyssinians and the invading Soudanese Dervishes, when the former were defeated.

February 20th.

A sugar trust, with the object of regulating the prices of sugar, has been formed in America with a capital of 16,000,000 dollars.

The Australian shippers have adopted the report of the committee appointed at a recent meeting, which insists on the abolition of differential rates of freight, recommends the appointment of a standing committee to protect their mutual interests, and refer the dispute with the freight ring to arbitration. The London Chamber of Commerce is now parleying with the Ring.

An International Tariff Bureau to arrange for printing the tariffs of the world in four languages, meets in Brussels on March 15th. Colonial delegates will be invited to attend the sittings.

In reply to a question in the House of Commons, the Right Hon. Sir James Ferguson, Foreign Under-Secretary, stated that the Government of Venezuela proposed to refer the dispute with England to arbitration. He further states that no action on the part of the fleet had been ordered.

SYDNEY, February 21st.

The cricket match between Vernon's team and the New South Wales eleven was concluded to-day, and resulted in an easy victory for the Englishmen by eight wickets. The Australians' second innings closed for 252, while the Englishmen made 109, for two wickets, Peel being not out for 52, and Read not out for 53.

The Premier to-day received a telegram from Sir Samuel Griffith, inviting New South Wales to join the other Australian Governments with whom he had already communicated, to stop the threatened invasion of Chinese from the Northern Territory. Sir Henry Parkes replied immediately, expressing the utmost willingness that the Government of New South Wales should co-operate with the other colonies in checking what appears to be a well devised plan to establish a Chinese colony in Australia.

MELBOURNE, February 21st.

The Premier to-day received a wire from Sir Samuel Griffith, pointing out the injury which would result if the unrestricted immigration of Chinese were permitted at Port Darwin, and urging that the Government of South Australia should be advised to adopt restrictive measures, even though it was found necessary to anticipate the sanction of Parliament. Sir Samuel Griffith does not indicate what course is desirable, therefore his telegram is regarded simply of value as indicating the objection of Queensland to the influx of Chinese into Australia.

LONDON, February 21st.

The Prince of Wales is now at San Remo. The British Government intend to revive the Department of Agriculture.

Baron De Worms will continue to act as President of the International Sugar Bounties Commission.

The Roumanian Parliament was opened yesterday by the King in person. In his opening speech His Majesty advised the strengthening of military forces.

The latest news from San Remo is to the effect that the Crown Prince has been attacked with violent coughing, and that it is feared that inflammation of the lungs has set in.

Intense excitement prevails at Berlin in consequence of the condition of the Crown Prince.

Sir Morell Mackenzie disagrees with the German doctors in their treatment of the wound in the Prince's throat.

Sir Henry Holland has pressed Sir Charles Mitchell, Governor of Fiji, to take steps to accelerate the return of the Wesleyans deported from Tonga during the late religious persecutions. He also expressed the hope that the oppression there would now cease.

Most of the Australian Agents-General have announced their intention of attending the Tariff Bureau at Brussels.

February 22nd.

The Anglo-American Fisheries Treaty provides for the appointment of a mixed commission to delimit the Canadian-Newfoundland waters, which the Americans renounced by treaty in 1818. The right of Americans to fish at disputed points is to be referred to arbitration. The Republican Senators oppose the ratification of the treaty, chiefly on the ground that a tonnage tax is imposed on American vessels trading with Canada.

Sir Henry Holland, after consulting with Sir Charles Mitchell in April next, will decide upon what steps to take to assist the Wesleyans in Tonga.

Late news from Massowah states that smart outpost engagements have taken place between the Italians and the Abyssinians at Laat.

Twenty seven trains conveying Russian troops, entered Bessarabia yesterday.

PARIS, February 22nd.

It is considered probable that M. Tardieu, the French Premier, will be ousted from office on the Secret Service vote in the Chamber of Deputies.

ADELAIDE, February 28th.

The Honourable the Premier has received a telegram from Sir S. W. Griffiths, the Premier of Queensland, stating that great alarm exists in that colony about the southward movement of the Chinese from Port Darwin, and impresses upon the Government of South Australia the necessity and importance of restriction under the present laws, pending further legislation. He advises that the S. A. Parliament should be summoned immediately, to enact restrictive measures, and thus earn the gratitude of the whole of Australia.

A public meeting on the Chinese question was held at Port Augusta on Saturday. Resolutions were carried asking the Premier to immediately take steps to prevent further immigration, and also pledging themselves to support only those candidates for election to the Legislative Council who promised to support a prohibitory poll-tax. The Cabinet is still considering the question but no decision has yet been arrived at or published.

March 1st.

The action taken by the residents in the Northern Territory, on the Chinese question has thoroughly aroused the attention of all Australia.

The Presidents of the Trades and Labour councils of Victoria, Tasmania, and South Australia, who are now attending the annual conference at Brisbane interviewed Sir Samuel W. Griffiths yesterday, and emphasized the great danger to Australia, that lies ahead, if the matter is not vigorously dealt with by the colonies jointly. Sir Samuel replied, regretting the laxity and lukewarmness of South Australia on the Chinese question; he feared that shoals of Chinese would arrive while the matter was under discussion.

The Premier of South Australia telegraphed to all the colonies yesterday, that the executive had decided to impose a poll-tax of ten pounds per head on all Chinese arriving at or proceeding more than 200 miles southward from Port Darwin, overland, and also that all the ports in China and its dependencies, the Malay peninsula, Singapore, Netherlands-India, and its dependencies, and Timor were declared to be infected ports, and all vessels arriving therefrom would be quarantined for twenty-one days. The countries interested were also similarly advised. The poll-tax is imposed subject to the sanction of the Parliament.

WILL THERE BE WAR THIS YEAR?

The present year is the fifth year of modern times in which the aggregate of the figures is twenty-five, and there will be but five more years in which such a combination is possible prior to the year 2599. Probably few have ever heard of the old prophecy which reads as follows:-

"In every future year of Our Lord."

When the sum of the figures is twenty five,

Some warlike king will draw the sword,

But peaceful nations in peace shall thrive.

Students of modern history will readily recall how faithfully this prophecy has been fulfilled in the four previous years to which it applied.

In 1699 Russia, Denmark and Poland formed the coalition against Sweden which inaugurated the great war that ended in the disastrous defeat of Charles XII at Poltava.

The year 1789 will ever be memorable on account of the breaking out of the French Revolution.

The year 1798 witnessed the campaign of Bonaparte in Egypt and the formation of the second European coalition against France.

In 1879 war broke out between England and Afghanistan, followed by the invasion of the latter country by British troops.

In what manner the prediction is to be verified in 1888 remains yet to be seen, but the present condition of Europe seems to promise an abundant fulfillment of the prophecy.

POPULAR SCIENCE.

VARIOUS BITS OF INFORMATION PICKED UP HERE AND THERE.

Copper is said to lose 18 per cent of its tensile strength by being raised from 60 deg. to 360 deg.

An English invention relates to set squares for draughtsmen having one of the edges bevelled at various angles.

The Medical Record says that expired air is optically pure and contains no microbes. Respiration, therefore, purifies air as far as microbes are concerned.

The use of steel castings is becoming so extended in England as to alarm the iron founders who see their prospects for work slipping away from them.

The problem of obtaining electric energy from carbon without heat is quite an interesting subject for occasional discussion among electrical engineers.

It is admitted by foreign electricians that the progress made in the United States in the utilization of electricity is far in advance of that of any other nation.

Rutgers is to have a school of electricity and an improved Scientific Department. The college has received \$15,000 by a recent Act of Congress for experimental stations.

Chemists have just determined by careful experiment that a man can barely taste 3-1,000ths of a grain of sugar, 1-1,000ths of a grain of salt and 5-10,000ths of a grain of strichnine.

A Dr. Freud of Vienna proposes to cure cancerous patients by reducing the quantity of sugar in their blood, his theory being that cancer is caused by the presence of an abnormal quantity of sugar.

The St. Louis Globe-Democrat thinks that in view of the tremendous strides that electricity is making as a street railway motor we shall travel at a speed of 100 miles an hour within the next ten years.

A physician lecturing upon physical exercise declared that if only twenty minutes a day should be spent in physical exercise as an adjunct to mental education, we might live to seventy without a day's illness, and perhaps prolong our lives to one hundred years.

A non-speaking telephone is exhibited at Pittsburgh. A sensitive plate presses against the larynx and glands of the neck, and as the jaws are moved in conversation the motion sends the words along the wire as distinctly as the telephone now in use.

Dr. Voisin related the case of a girl, eleven years of age, who was a most inveterate and persistent liar, and whom he cured completely of this reprehensible habit by means of hypnotism. Here is a grand field of usefulness opened before this young science.

A new thing out is a clock with ordinary works that will run for a year without attention. An electric battery concealed in the case winds up the clock from day to day, or week to week, as the need may be. Once in a great while the battery must be renewed, but that is all the care the clock calls for.

An inventive German has devised a coffin for the convenience of those who have a dread of being buried alive. It is provided with a valve, by means of which fresh air is admitted in quantity sufficient to support life, and there is an arrangement of wires, by means of which the least movement of the body sets an electric bell ringing.

A Swiss watchmaker has made a new application of electricity in the invention of an illuminated watch dial, whereby one in the dark can tell the hour with ease. A small electric lamp is fitted in the watch case where it will light up the dial when, by touching the case with a charm, connection is established through the chain with a small battery carried in the watch-pocket.

In the opinion of competent authority the chloroforming of a person without disturbing him is a practical impossibility. The density of the vapor, the strong pungent odor and the irritation caused by breathing chloroform at first, combine to make it an impossibility for a person to pass from a natural sleep into a state of anesthesia.

It has been stated that a good temper for cutting tools may be obtained by plunging the tool heated for hardening into boiling water, letting it remain there until cold. The tool is to be ready for work without further treatment. The above sounds pretty well, and it will cost nothing to try, even if it prove a failure.

It has been stated that since the sunflower has been cultivated on certain swamps of the potomac malitia fever has decreased. At the mouth of the Scheldt, in Holland, it is stated that similar results have been observed. The sunflower emits large volumes of water in the form of vapor, and its aromatic odor, as well as the oxygen it exhales, may have something to do with the sanitary influence in question.

Americans of the middle and upper classes, i.e., those who can afford to get their lives insured—are healthier and longer-lived than Englishmen. Such is the result arrived at from a study of the life-insurance statistics of twenty countries, covering the period of years since 1874. At twenty the expectation of life of American males is 42.1 years; of English males, 41.1; of American females it is 40.8 years, which is precisely the same as that of English women. After the age of twenty the expectation of life among American women slightly exceeds that of English women, up to the age of forty-seven. After the age of thirty-five, the expectation of life of English women is better than that of Englishmen, but in America women have a 6.0 lower expectation ratio than men.

TO-DAY'S ADVERTISEMENTS.

FOR NEW YORK, VIA SUEZ CANAL

THE Steamship

"CLAYMORE"

Craig, Commander, will be despatched for the above Port, on or about the 11th proximo.

For Freight or Passage, apply to

ADAMSON, BELL & CO.,

Agents.

Hongkong, 22nd March, 1888. [312]

TO LET.

A COMMODIOUS SUIT of OFFICES in the ICE HOUSE BUILDINGS.

Apply to

G. C. ANDERSON,

13, Praya Central.

Hongkong, 22nd March, 1888. [313]

INTIMATIONS.

SOCIETE FRANCAISE DES CHARBONNAGES DU TONQUIN.

(SOCIETE ANONYME).

CAPITAL.....FRANCS 4,000,000
DIVIDED INTO 8,000 SHARES OF
FRANCS 500 EACH.

THIS Société is being formed for the purpose of working the COAL MINES at HALONG BAY, TONQUIN, under a concession granted by the French Government in Tonquin to Monsieur BAVIER-CHAUFFOUR as per Acts dated Honan, the 28th day of March, 1887, and the 5th day of August, 1887.

The COAL MINES cover an area of about 15,000 Hectares, and the Concession will be conveyed to the Société by the Concessaire as soon as the Société is formed.

Of the 8,000 SHARES, 4,000 are offered for public subscription, at par, on the 22nd and 23rd days of March, 1888, and the amount thereof is payable on application.

Forms of application can be obtained from M. BAVIER-CHAUFFOUR, 7, Queen's Road Central, to whom the same must be returned when filled up and signed, and where also the Articles of Association of the Société formation can be obtained by the intending Shareholders.

Payment for Shares applied for must be made to the COMPTOIR D'ESCOMPTA DE PARIS, Hongkong, as Agents for the BANQUE DE L'INDO CHINE, who will grant Receipts for same.

Hongkong, 20th March, 1888. [313]

NOTICE.

NOTICE is hereby given that if the sums hereinbefore mentioned are not CLAIMED within one year from this date, they will be transferred to the GENERAL REVENUE of this Colony.

In the matter of the TRUST ESTATE of DUNST & CO.

1.—Balance due to ALEXANDER COVIE, Master of the ship or vessel Aurora \$8,796.65

2.—Balance due to HENRY MANN, Master of the ship or vessel Waterwitch 78.15

3.—Balance due to J. GOWER 49.10

In the matter of JACKY alias THOMAS JOHN ROWLAND, amount to credit of this account 2,281.57

EDW. J. ACKROYD, Registrar.

Supreme Court, Hongkong, 17th March, 1888. [313]

NOTICE.

NOTICE is hereby given that if the sums mentioned in Schedules A and B of Ordinance No. 11 of 1888, copies of which have been posted up in the Supreme Court and published in the Government Gazette of the 17th March, 1888, are not CLAIMED within six months from date hereof, they will be paid over to the GENERAL REVENUE of the Colony.

The sums mentioned in Schedule C, to the said Ordinance, a copy of which has been posted and published, will also be paid over to the Treasury if not CLAIMED within one year from the said date.

EDW. J. ACKROYD, Registrar.

Registry Supreme Court, Hongkong, 17th March, 1888. [313]

NOTIFICATION.

HONGKONG RIFLE ASSOCIATION.

THE FIFTH PRIZE MEETING

will be held at Kowloon, on

FRIDAY AND SATURDAY,

the 30th and 31st March,

and

M—O N D A Y,

the 2nd April, 1888. [313]

NOTICE.

HONGKONG RIFLE ASSOCIATION.

Entertainments

NOTICE.

A. S. WATSON & CO., LTD.

HAVE JUST RECEIVED THEIR ANNUAL SUPPLY

of

LAWN GRASS SEED

and

SWEET CORN,

for immediate sowing.

THE HONGKONG DISPENSARY,

Hongkong, 2nd March, 1888.

The Hongkong Telegraph

HONGKONG, THURSDAY, MARCH 22, 1888.

THE DOCK COMPANY.

(Continued)

ANOTHER egregious error on the part of the Board of Directors was the determination to make Kowloon at all costs a rival of home ship-building yards. Elated with the unprecedented results achieved by the Company in consequence of the long drawn out series of marine disasters already referred to, and victims of some extraordinary delusion that the construction of new steamers in Hongkong was to become as much a regular business as it is on the Clyde or Thames, the Board resolved to completely revolutionise the entire Kowloon system which had in the past proved such a safe and reliable source of revenue. The idea was to reconstruct almost the entire establishment, and with the latest and most costly machinery and other dock-yard appliances, and by more than doubling the European staff, to place the Company—in the Directors' own words—"in a position to undertake the building of the largest class of vessels and to execute promptly the heaviest repairs." The somewhat important question as to where the orders to build "the largest class of vessels" were to come from in this part of the world, appears never to have entered into the calculations of these "wise men of the East;" however, the scheme has been carried out, at what cost and with what results so far we shall presently see.

In the Report issued to the shareholders in August 1881, it is announced that "the plant and machinery at all the establishments are in perfect working order, and the Directors look forward with confidence to continued prosperity." At this time it is quite evident that the Kowloon transformation scene had never entered the heads of the Directors, and there would appear to be very little doubt that the suggestion originally came from Mr. GILLIES, the Company's Secretary, who was then at home on a well-earned leave of absence after many years residence in Hongkong. At the beginning of 1881 the entire Kowloon establishment stood in the Company's books at \$103,873.94; in the last Report issued it is set down at \$64,479.88, or an increase of nearly a quarter of a million of dollars, and during these past seven years the large sum of \$30,000 has been written off the value of the docks, plant and machinery. So that, roughly speaking, the Directors have expended in improvements, chiefly at Kowloon, since the Secretary's visit to the Scotch and English ship-building yards, no less sum than \$580,605.94, exclusive of the three quarters of a million already sunk in the Admiralty Dock. And all this time the Company has been up to the neck in debt, in amounts ranging from \$360,000 in December, 1881, to over a million dollars in December, 1887. How the Directors will defend such a suicidal financial policy as this, they will probably have an opportunity of explaining at no far distant date.

It must be frankly admitted that both Kowloon and Sam-sui-po have been vastly improved. The resolve to place Kowloon on a par with leading ship-building and engineering establishments at home, so far as machinery, plant, and other appliances could effect that object, has been substantially carried out; but the necessity, the advisability of those wholesale and expensive improvements has yet to be demonstrated and justified by practical results. That has not yet been done; in fact the Company's published reports are incontrovertible evidence to the contrary. If the plant and machinery at all the establishments—*vide* Report—were in perfect order in the summer of 1881, it is a marvellous thing that they should have become so imperfect and inadequate as to require the expenditure of close upon six hundred thousand dollars in the short space of seven years. We opine that the shareholders of the Company were satisfied with the plant, machinery and hard-working staff that made the docks a paying concern, and

were not anxious to have an expensive model engineering establishment laid down at Kowloon as one of the sights of the colony, merely to gratify the views of certain gentlemen who are either twenty years behind or half a century before the times we live in. For the six hundred thousand dollars expended in these improvements the shareholders were promised, in addition to many other things, greater efficiency in the character of the work performed and a considerable reduction in the heavy cost of labour. To cheapen the cost of production was the Board's justification for this heavy expenditure. And in one Report, that of January to June 1884, we are told triumphantly "that the most marked increase of the revenue is that derived from the construction of new vessels, a large number of which have been built at Kowloon; with the improvements and new machinery that are now being introduced for shipbuilding purposes and for the heaviest class of forgings, the Directors are sanguine that contracts can be carried out by the Company on terms comparing favorably with home rates." If this were really feasible, it is pertinent to ask why the Dock Company's tender for the building of the river steamer *Fatshan* was about twice the amount of any home tender, and considerably more than double what was actually paid for the vessel's construction? But with all due respect to the Board of Directors, it will be quite impossible to compete favorably in this colony with home prices, so long as the iron, steel, etc., required in the construction of steamers have to be shipped out here, with all the attendant expenses of freight, loss of time, etc., and for many other reasons which will at once suggest themselves to practical men. Again, it reads well in the Reports that "the Company are now in a position to undertake the building of the largest class of vessel," and it may flatter the self-esteem of the Directors to hear effusive post-prandial orators boast of Kowloon's capacity to construct anything from an ironclad downwards; but will this sort of thing stand investigation? Admitting that Kowloon possesses all the facilities claimed, we have merely again to ask who are likely to require the construction of ironclads and the largest class vessels in this part of the world, to a sufficient extent to find anything like remunerative occupation for an establishment which represents to the shareholders something not far short of two millions of dollars! All this is the merest nonsense, and the sooner it is recognised that the "Clarke" medal from the Royal Society of New South Wales for services to the sciences of geology and mineralogy. He has also received a gold medal from the King of Holland.

The Rev. J. E. Tegison-Woods has been awarded the "Clarke" medal from the Royal Society of New South Wales for services to the sciences of geology and mineralogy. He has also received a gold medal from the King of Holland.

Or the 263 Popes whom the Roman Church of the present day recognises as the legitimate successors of St. Peter, only sixteen have celebrated their jubilee as priests, as the consecrated Bishops of Rome, beginning with John XII, in 956.

WHEN you compliment woman, make a thorough job of it, as in this instance on the part of the *Baltimore American*.—In all the history of the human race woman was never so charming, never so beautiful and never so useful as she is to-day. She has developed with civilization and advanced with progress until her power has penetrated every department of the world's work.

It is difficult to find any sphere of business activity in which she is not an important factor.

THERE are in France 279,270 apartments, pro-

viding accommodation for over three hundred thousand persons, which rooms are entirely destitute of any other means of admitting air and light than by the door. In Paris alone the num-

ber of families thus lodged reaches a total of 27,386. There are in London over sixty thousand families who live in cellars under the most unfavorable conditions as regards salubrity. In Berlin there are 39,000 families who occupy only portions of rooms, often with a sort of shelf on which father, mother and children sleep, one over the other.

It is said that when Madame Bernhardt was studying for a play in which she had to die of consumption, she used to visit the Paris hospitals and study realism in the consumption wards. At last, one afternoon, while she was passing through one of the wards, a young girl, dying and delirious, rose to a sitting posture in the bed, and shaking her finger toward the actress, cried: "Look there! There comes again that dreadful woman! She is death itself! Wherever she goes we die! Whenever she looks at one of us, that is the end! Take her away! Take her away!" and with a shriek the woman fell dead. The Bernhardt visited the hospitals no more.

HERE are a few samples of the wisdom of Uncle Eck:—Genius invents, talent applies. Faith won't enable a man to lift a ton all at once; but it will, ten pounds at a time. When you have learned to listen you have already acquired the rudiments of a good education. I have never seen an idea too big for a sentence, but I have read thousands of sentences too big for an idea.

You may travel a good way on whisky, and travel fast while you are going, but you can't get back when you want to. Vanity and Jealousy are the two weakest passions in the human heart, and, strange to tell, they are the most common. A thoroughly neat woman is a joy unspeakable, but doesn't she make it busy for the dust and the people in her neighbourhood! My young disciple, don't hunt for new things, but study to improve upon the old ones; every flat stone, and most of the boulders, have been turned over already by the poverty-hunters.

THE P. & O. Company's extra steamer *Zimbezi*, from Bombay, left Singapore for this port on the 20th inst. at 4 p.m.

THE British Roman Catholic Directory for 1888 states that there are now in England and Wales 1,314 priests, as against 1,728 in 1875, serving 1,304 churches, chapels and missionary stations. In Scotland there are 5 bishops and 334 priests, serving 327 chapels, churches and stations. The estimated Roman Catholic population of the United Kingdom is: England and Wales, 1,354,000; Scotland, 326,000; Ireland, 3,961,000. Total—5,641,000.

ACCORDING to a writer in the *Contemporary*, Austria-Hungary has nine high schools of commerce, eleven intermediate schools, and forty-two schools intended principally for clerks. In Italy the subjects of commercial education is receiving careful attention. The system of bifurcation commences immediately after a child has left the elementary school. Those intended for industrial pursuits pass on to the technical school and thence to the technical institute. Others pass through the corresponding classical schools to the university. The technical institute contains three or more separate departments, in which the instruction is specialized with a view to different branches of industry. There are sixty-five technical institutes in Italy, in many of which there is a department entirely devoted to commercial education. In Belgium there are numerous middle schools, the object of which is to prepare youths for commercial pursuits. The fact that the children of the middle classes are destined for the most part, to earn their livelihood in trade or commerce is recognized in the general scheme of intermediate education adopted in Belgium, and the course of school studies is arranged accordingly.

THE *Independents* in referring to the late piracy case in Macao, deprecates the abolition of capital punishment in the Portuguese colonies. It is alleged that the Chinese pirates, when apprehended by the Macao authorities, are invariably extradited to Canton at the request of the Viceroy and there decapitated without any more ado.

To avoid extradition these wily depredators resort to a measure which is quite in keeping with their habits,—they murder the police who apprehend them, and thus become prisoners of the Portuguese Government. As there is no capital punishment in Macao, these murderers are exiled to Timor where they soon manage to find a living, and eventually amass fortunes, return to China, purchase a mandarin's button, and become notabilities in the Flower Land. The *Independents* says that this race of pirates is fast increasing in and around Macao, where their necks are kept safe from the Chinese axe or the English rope, and it urges the Lisbon Government to enforce capital punishment as the only deterrent capable of repelling those dangerous ruffians in their wild career of devestation and plunder. Macao enjoys quite a reputation for being a haunt of pirates. For centuries the little sheltered peninsula has been a nest of sea rovers, and the former Portuguese navigators and conquerors of India are said to have worked miracles in clearing the land of those undesirable birds of prey. It would appear however, that the work of centuries has not been productive of much good, as pirates are now as plentiful in the neighbourhood of the Holy City as when the little rock of Amuungao was transformed into a Lusitanian colony and christened holly by the pious pilgrims of lust and rapine who first colonised the land in 1580.

ON the hearing of the suit The Douglas Steamship Company v. W. Cruckshank, \$111,54, being resumed this morning at the Summary Court before Mr. A. J. Leach, Acting Plaice Judge, Mr. Webber, for the defendant, called: two more witnesses, Captain D. Scott and Mr. A. Johnston, an engineer surveyor for Lloyds. Both witnesses had, at the request of the defendant, gone on board the *Formosa* when the vessel returned to Hongkong after the explosion. They inspected the damaged parcel room. Mr. Johnston saw the damage done by the explosion, the charred planks, and a mark in the iron work, which looked as if it had been caused by a bullet or some round substance; but he could not form any opinion as to the cause of the explosion. Captain Scott described the position of the carpenter's tools as they were fixed into the woodwork in consequence of the explosion, for which he could not account. Mr. J. Grant and Mr. H. Woolnough were then recalled, the former stating that the vessel had not been surveyed in Swatow, and the latter explaining the composition of "flare-ups" and their unexplosive nature. Mr. Webber said that concluded his case, and he submitted to the Court that there were three issues to be decided:—(1) whether the parcel shipped by his client caused the explosion; (2) whether its contents were wrongly declared; (3) and whether they were of a dangerous nature. His Honour expressed the opinion that the only issue should be to decide whether the parcel in question was the probable cause of the explosion. Mr. Webber submitted that on the evidence before the Court the articles shipped by defendant were not of a dangerous nature; they were well packed, and could not have caused the explosion, as they had not been intimately mixed. No survey having been made in Swatow, no direct evidence could be produced to show that the explosion was caused by this parcel. There were in the parcel room several other parcels which had not been accounted for, and which might be of a suspicious character as the one complained of. Mr. Wotton, in replying for the plaintiff Company, submitted three issues for his Honour's decision:—(1) Was the parcel containing substances of a dangerous nature, strongly declared, in contravention of the regulations incorporated in the parcel receipt? (2) Did the explosion occur on board the *Formosa* on the 26th December? (3) Was the explosion directly produced by the substances contained within the box? He urged that the main point to decide was the 3rd issue; and that if the substances were of a dangerous or damaging nature, the inference and the presumption should be that they alone caused the explosion. His honour reserved judgment.

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WE note from a Townsville contemporary that Vice-Captain George, who was leading lady in a dramatic company in Hongkong some fourteen years ago—if we mistake not the lady was "fretting her weary hour" in the City Hall on the night of the great typhoon of 1874—has lately been touring in Queensland.

THE Macao Provincial Council, which is a Board composed of the Acting Governor as President, and several officials and prominent citizens as members, have censured the proceedings of the Municipality already referred to in these columns, and ordered that "August Corporation" to cancel the minutes of the session in which a vote of censure was passed on the Governor for having indulged in certain laudatory remarks regarding several of the professors of St. Joseph's College. The Senate has not yet, we believe, signified its intention of taking any notice of the Provincial Council's decisions.

SOMEbody has confounded the mistakes of life, and arrived at the conclusion that there are fourteen of them. Most people would say, if they told the truth, that there was no limit to the mistakes of life; that they were like the drops in the ocean or the sands on the shore in number, but it is well to be accurate. Here, then, are fourteen great mistakes: It is a great mistake to set up our own standard of right and wrong, and judge people accordingly; to measure the enjoyment of others by our own; to expect uniformity of opinion in this world; to look for judgment and experience in youth; to endeavor to mold all dispositions alike; not to yield to immaterial trifles; to look for perfection in our own actions; to worry ourselves and others with what cannot be remedied; not to alleviate all that needs alleviation as far as lies in our power; not to make allowances for the infirmities of others; to consider everything impossible that we cannot perform; to believe only what our finite minds can grasp; to expect to be able to understand everything. The greatest of mistakes is to live for time alone, when any moment may launch us into eternity.

AT the Supreme Court, in Original Jurisdiction, o-day, before Mr. J

The Hongkong Telegraph.

No. 1885.

THURSDAY, MARCH 22, 1888.

SIX DOLLARS
PER QUARTER.

Banks.

THE NEW ORIENTAL BANK CORPORATION, LIMITED.
AUTHORISED CAPITAL £2,000,000.
PAID-UP CAPITAL £500,000.
Registered Office, 407 THACKERAY STREET,
LONDON.

BRANCHES IN INDIA, CHINA, JAPAN
AND THE COLONIES.

THE BANK receives MONEY ON DEPOSIT,
Letters of CREDIT, forwards BILLS FOR
COMPETENT, and Transacts Banking and
Agency business generally, on terms to be had
on application.

INTEREST ALLOWED ON DEPOSITS:

Period of 12 months, 5 per Cent. per Annum.

" " 4 " "

" " 3 " "

ON CURRENT DEPOSIT ACCOUNTS
2 per Cent. per Annum on the Daily Balance.

APPROVED CLAIMS on the ORIENTAL
BANK CORPORATION, in Liquidation, or the
BALANCES of such claims, purchased on
advantageous terms.

AGENCY OF THE NATIONAL LIFE ASSURANCE
SOCIETY.

E. W. RUTTER,
Manager.

HONGKONG-BRANCH.

HONGKONG AND SHANGHAI
BANKING CORPORATION.

PAID-UP CAPITAL £7,500,000.
RESERVE FUND 3,900,000.
ESTATE LIABILITY OF PROPRIETORS 7,500,000.

COURT OF DIRECTORS:

CHAIRMAN—Hon. JOHN BELL-IRVING.
DEPUTY CHAIRMAN—W. H. FORBES, Esq.
C. D. BOTTOMLEY, Esq. Hon. A. P. McEWEN.
W. G. BROOK, Esq. S. C. MICHAELSEN, Esq.
H. L. DALRYMPLE, Esq. J. S. MOSES, Esq.
H. HOPPUS, Esq. L. POKORNICKER, Esq.
B. LAVION, Esq. E. A. SOLONON, Esq.

CHIEF MANAGER,
HONGKONG—THOMAS JACKSON, Esq.

MANAGER,
SHANGHAI—EWEN CAMERON, Esq.
LONDON BANKERS—LONDON AND
COUNTY BANK.

HONGKONG—INTEREST ALLOWED.
ON CURRENT DEPOSIT ACCOUNT at
the rate of 2 per cent. per Annum on the
daily balance.

ON FIXED DEPOSITS:

For 3 months, 3 per Cent. per Annum.

For 6 months, 4 per Cent. per Annum.

For 12 months, 5 per Cent. per Annum.

LOCAL BILLS DISCOUNTED.

CREDITS granted on approved Securities,
and every description of BANKING and
EXCHANGE business transacted.

DRAFTS granted on London, and the chief
commercial places in Europe, India, Australia,
America, China and Japan.

T. JACKSON,
Chief Manager.
Hongkong, 25th January, 1888.

RULES
OF THE
HONGKONG SAVINGS
BANK.

1.—THE BUSINESS of the above BANK will be conducted by the HONGKONG AND SHANGHAI BANKING CORPORATION, on their premises in Hongkong. Business Hours on WEEK-DAYS, 10 to 3; SATURDAYS, 10 to 1.

2.—SUMS LESS THAN \$1, OR MORE THAN \$250 at one time will not be received. No Depositor may deposit more than \$2,500 in any one year.

3.—DEPOSITORS in the SAVINGS BANK, having \$100, or more, at their credit may at their option transfer the same to the HONGKONG AND SHANGHAI BANKING CORPORATION on fixed deposit for 12 months at 5 per cent. per annum interest.

4.—INTEREST at the rate of 3½% per annum will be allowed to Depositors on their daily balances.

5.—EACH DEPOSITOR will be supplied gratis with a PASS-BOOK, which must be presented with each payment or withdrawal. Depositors must not make any entries themselves in their PASS-BOOKS, but should send them to be written up at least twice a year, about the beginning of January and beginning of July.

6.—CORRESPONDENCE as to the business of the Bank, if marked ON HONGKONG SAVINGS BANK BUSINESS, will be forwarded free by the various British Post Offices in Hongkong and China.

7.—WITHDRAWALS may be made demandable, but the personal attendance of the Depositor or his duly appointed Agent, and the production of his PASS-BOOK, are necessary.

FOR THE HONGKONG AND SHANGHAI BANKING CORPORATION.

T. JACKSON,
Chief Manager.
Hongkong, 1st September, 1887.

NOTICE.
HONGKONG & WHAMPOA
DOCK COMPANY,
LIMITED.

SHIPMASTERS AND ENGINEERS.

We are respectfully informed that, if upon their arrival in this HARBOUR, none of the COMPANY'S FOREMEN should be at hand, ORDERS FOR REPAIRS, if sent to the HEAD OFFICE, No. 14, Praha Central, will receive prompt attention.

In the event of complaints being found necessary, communication with the Undersigned is requested, when immediate steps will be taken to rectify the cause of dissatisfaction.

D. GILLIES,
Secretary.
Hongkong, 25th August, 1887.

Auctions.

PUBLIC AUCTION OF HOUSEHOLD FURNITURE, PIANO, &c., &c.

THE Undersigned has received instructions
to Sell by Public Auction, on
SATURDAY,

the 24th March, 1888, at 2 p.m., at the Residence
of Captain W. E. CLARK, No. 31, West Villa,
corner of Polson and Batt's Road West.

THE WHOLE OF HIS
HOUSEHOLD FURNITURE,
comprising—

ROMAN SATIN COVERED DRAWING
ROOM SUITE, MIRRORS, PICTURES,
CARPETS, RUGS, LACE-CURTAINS,
BLACK AND GOLD CORNICES, BLACK
& GOLD CANTERBURY, etc.

MAHOGANY COTTAGE PIANO by
COLLARD & COLLARD, nearly new.

EXTENSION DINING TABLE, CUTLERY,
CROCKERY, GLASS and PLATED WARE,
& DINING ROOM FURNITURE, LAMPS,
etc.

DOUBLE IRON BEDSTEADS, SPRING
MATTRESS and HAIR MATTRESS and
PILLOW, LADY'S WARDROBE DRESSING
TABLE with MIRROR, MARBLE TOP,
WASHING-STAND & BED ROOM SUITE,
ICE CHEST, COOKING RANGE, RICK-
SHA, LADY'S CHAIR,

&c., &c., &c., &c.

Catalogues will be issued prior to the sale and
the above will be on view on FRIDAY NEXT.

TERMS OF SALE.—As Customary.

G. R. LAMMERT,
Auctioneer.

Hongkong, 17th March, 1888.

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GOVERNMENT NOTIFICATION.

THE following Particulars of Sale of Crown
Land by Public Auction, to be held on the
spot, on

MONDAY,
the 26th day of March, 1888, at 3 p.m., are
published for general information.

By Command,

ARATHOON SETH,
for the Colonial Secretary,

Colonial Secretary's Office,

Hongkong, 17th March, 1888.

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Particulars of the letting by Public Auction
of land to be held on MONDAY, the 26th day of
March, 1888, at 3 p.m., by Order of His

Excellency the Officer Administering the Govern-
ment of Thirteen Lots of CROWN LAND, at
Hung Hom, Kowloon, in the Colony of Hong-
kong, for a term of 75 Years.

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